

# Biodefense and Emerging Infections Research Resources Repository

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) established the Biodefense and Emerging Infections Research Resources Repository in September 2003 to provide unique and quality-assured biodefense-related reagents and resources to the scientific community. This program will help facilitate the understanding of the pathogenesis of NIAID Category A, B, and C Priority Pathogens and emerging infectious disease organisms, and aid in the development and evaluation of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics for these organisms. The repository will also coordinate access to reagents not held in the program.

In order to facilitate research and product development for biodefense and emerging infectious diseases, the repository will collect information about biodefense-related reagents and standards and will disseminate this information through print, electronic media, and workshops; enhance technology transfer through development and publication of methods; and, facilitate commercial development of reagents through proactive communication with biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. In addition to securing acquisition, storage, and distribution of biological agents, the repository will also generate new reagents as scientific advances are made.

It is anticipated that in the long-term the Biodefense and Emerging Infections Research Resources Repository will become the Federal government's national resource and clearinghouse for specimens, reagents, and information on these organisms. By centralizing this function, access to and use of these materials can be monitored and quality control of the reagents can be ensured. NIAID anticipates that this resource will be available on the Internet in mid 2004 at [www.beire-sources.org](http://www.beire-sources.org). In the meantime, please check the NIAID biodefense website located at [www.niaid.nih.gov/biodefense](http://www.niaid.nih.gov/biodefense) for updates and future information.

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